

WHITEFRIAR STREET CHURCH

The Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel & Shrine of Saint Valentine, Dublin 2

February 28, 2021 The Second Sunday of Lent

SACRAMENTS

Under Government restrictions

Private Prayer

Monday to Saturday: 11.00am to 2.30pm. Sunday: 11.30am to 3.15pm

Masses

Mass will be available live through our website: Monday to Saturday:

8.00am, 10.00am,

3.00pm

Sunday:

8.00am, 10.30am,

4.00pm

Names can be enrolled for Mass and will be remembered and prayed for on the day requested.

St Jude Novena

This continues to be celebrated on Tuesdays at 8.00pm and will be livestreamed in our website. The blessing with the Relics of St Jude and of St Thérèse of Lisieux will take place.

Confessions

Monday to Saturday: 11.00am to 12.00pm

Baptisms & Weddings

Please contact the parish office if you have a baptism or wedding booked at this time.

Join us for liturgy through our webcam



His clothes became dazzlingly white ...

Our readings for this second Sunday of Lent present us with an example of true faith and the reward of that faith. They place before us the need for this penitential season as we move towards the great festival of Easter. We will become pure as Christ and enter heaven through our own purification which we must carry out as willingly as Abraham was willing to sacrifice his own son in the reading from Genesis.

We read St Mark's account of the Transfiguration of the Lord on a mountain in the presence of three of his closest apostles – Peter, James and John. The entire scene reminds us of the great theophanies of the Old Testament which took place on mountains and also of the cloud which was present, symbolising God's presence during the Exodus. For a moment Jesus was seen in dazzling white robes which is a foretaste of what we too can be – pure as Christ. For Jesus, this was to come after his resurrection and it is possible that this event on the mountain took place to make his impending death easier for his followers. The Father's command to 'Listen to him' is a reminder to us to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Good News and to live our lives as he asks us to live, practising mercy and almsgiving, persevering in prayer and fasting, repenting of our sins, being steadfast in faith.

The appearance of the Lord in dazzling white should remind us of baptism, a moment we might not remember but during which we were wrapped in a white garment to symbolise the purity of our soul at that moment. To enter heaven, our soul must again be pure and the purification shouldn't wait until after we have died and left this world but should be an ongoing process, with the season of Lent a time of greater effort in our self-purification so that we may join the Lord in the glory of heaven.

THIS WEEK'S LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Sunday 28: Second Sunday of Lent

Monday 1: Second Week of Lent

Tuesday 2: Second Week of Lent

Wednesday 3: Second Week of Lent

Thursday 4: Second Week of Lent

Friday 5: Second Week of Lent

Saturday 6: Second Week of Lent

A REFLECTION

We were born incomplete, and we remain so all our life. This seems obvious if we think about it for a moment; notwithstanding this fact, many people waste too much energy lamenting the fact that they are not perfect and feel that their lives are far from complete. In some this leads to illadvised efforts to remedy the defect by compulsive efforts at self-improvement; in others it generates a kind of desperation that causes them to lose heart and to stop trying. The way to reduce the anguish inherent in both these extremes is to adopt a developmental approach to life in general as well as to the spiritual journey. Life has a beginning, a long middle, and an end; we attempt to skip intermediary stages at our peril. Unless we are interested in accelerating its conclusion we have to be content to spend most of our lives incomplete, unfulfilled, imperfect. This means that we have to be prepared to accept that our present state is less than ideal without getting uptight or losing our nerve.

Michael Casey, OCSO: 'Grace – On the Journey to God'.

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MASS OFFICE, CHURCH SHOP & GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Monday to Saturday: 9.30am - 3.00pm Items can be ordered by phone or through our online shop and they will be sent out by post. Shop and all other enquiries: © 01 475 8821 Email: shop@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

Web: https://shop.whitefriarstreetchurch.com/

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Members meet each Monday evening to consider requests. For those living within our parish, requests can be made by text to 085 789 8699. For those outside the parish, please ring 01 855 0022.

REMAINING VIGILANT

While Covid-19 is a significant threat, we strongly recommend and ask all those visiting our church to adhere to the following:

- Wear a face mask at all times while in the building no matter how many others are there.
- Wear a face mask when in the confessional.
- Sanitise your hands when entering the building.
- Keep a safe distance from others when seated and avoid crowding, particularly when lighting candles and visiting the Crib.
- Follow the instructions of our staff in the church and shop.

People may bring a clean bottle of tap water to church and it can be blessed by a priest, or they can buy a bottle in the Church Shop and we will fill it for them (there is no charge for the holy water).

SAFEGUARDING

Whitefriar Street Church is run by the Order of Carmelites (O.Carm.), who take the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults very seriously and employs personnel in this area. If anyone has a child protection concern, they should contact:

Ms Julie McCullough – Designated Liaison Person

Telephone: 01 298 4014 / 087 194 7212

Email: <u>DLP@gortmuire.com</u>

The devil does not care about tempting a person whom he already has in his power. The devil has no care to approach those who obey their own concupiscence in all things and satisfy the desires of their flesh; but if they begin to throw off their concupiscence and struggle against the desires of their flesh, then the devil is grieved and he comes forward with a sharper attack.

Saint Aelred of Rievaulx Cistercian Monk 1110-1167

PARISH OFFICE

For certificates of Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage, or to book a baptism or a wedding.

Email: parish@whitefriarstreetchurch.ie

CARMELITE COMMUNITY CENTRE

2 01 475 4673

Email: info@carmelitecommunitycentre.com